WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1.   A system for printing, within a user network, a label to be used for the return of a component, comprising:

an appliance connected to the user network, the appliance comprising at least one removable component, said component being provided with a first memory means containing information for the identification of the removable component,

a first means to detect a condition regarding the end of lifetime of at least one of the removable components located the appliance,

a second means connected to the user network and adapted to communicate, through a second network, with at least one remote server, said second means being adapted to send the remote server a request to receive data representing a label to be used for the return off a component, when the condition regarding the end of lifetime of a component located within the appliance has being detected by the first means, said request comprising the information, for the identification of the component, and

a third means connected to the user network and adapted to communicate, through the second network, with the remote server, said third means being adapted to receive data from the remote server, said data representing the label to be used for the return of the component, and said label including the information for the identification of the component.

2.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 1, wherein the second means comprises a local server connected to the user network and adapted to communicate, through the second network, with at least the remote, second server.

3.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 2, wherein the third means is comprised within the local server.

4.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 1, wherein the second means is located within the appliance.

5.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 1, wherein the third means is located within the appliance.

6.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the appliance comprises a fourth means for sending the second means a triggering message containing the information for the identification of a removable component, when the fast means has detected the condition regarding the end of lifetime of said component.

7.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the appliance comprises a second memory means containing information for the identification of at least one removable component and status information about the lifetime of said component and wherein the second means comprises a memory access means to access said second memory means.

8.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 1, wherein the information for the identification of the component is represented by a barcode embedded in the label.

9.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 1, wherein said system comprises a means for printing, connected to the user network, the third means sending data representing said label to the printing means.

10.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the second means comprises a memory means for storing information for the identification of the appliance.

11.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 10, wherein the request sent by the second means to the remote server contains the information for the identification of the appliance.

12.   A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the appliance comprises a printing device.

13.   A server for generating label to be used for returning a removable component of an appliance, the server connected to a network being adapted to communicated with at least one local server connected to the network, and comprising:

means to receive, from at least one local server, at least one request to send the local server data representing a label to be used for the return of a removable component, said request comprising information for the identification of the component,

means to retrieve from the request the information for the identification of the component,

means to authenticate the information for the identification of the component,

means to generate data representing a label to be used for the return of the component, which includes data representing the information for the identification of the component, the data representing the label being generated only if the identification information has been correctly authenticated, and

means for sending the local server data representing the label.

14.   A server for generating label to be used for returning a removable component according to claim 13, wherein the server comprises a memory access means to access a memory means containing authentication data.

15.   A server for generating label to be used for returning a removable component according to claim 14, wherein the information for the identification of the component is authenticated by said means for authentication, if the memory means contains a set of authentication data associated to said identification information.

16.   A server for generating a label to be used for returning a removable component according to claim 14, wherein the memory means is included in the server.

17.   A server for generating a label to be used for returning a removable component according to claim 13, wherein the request sent by the local server contains the information for the identification of the appliance, the information being used by the authentication means to authenticate the request sent by the local server.

18.   A server for generating a label to be used for returning a removable component according to claim 13, wherein the information for the identification of the component included in the label is represented as a barcode embedded in the label.

19.   A method for printing in a user network a label to be used for the return of a removable component, the user network comprising a local server adapted to communicate through a second network to a remote server and an appliance comprising at least one removable component, the removable component comprising a first memory means containing information for the identification of the component, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

determining a condition regarding the end of lifetime of the removable component;

reading the information for the identification of the component from the first memory means;

sending a request to the remote server, when the condition regarding the end of lifetime of the component has being determined, for receiving data representing a label to be used for the return of the removable component, the request containing the information for the identification of the removable component; and

receiving, from the remote server, data representing the label to be used for the return of the removable component, the label including the information for the identification of the component.

20.   A method for printing in a user network a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 19, wherein the method comprises the further step of sending a triggering message to the local server when the condition regarding the end of lifetime of the removable component has been determined.

21.   A method for printing in a user network a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 19, wherein the information for the identification of the component is represented by a barcode embedded in the label.

22.   A method for printing in a user network a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 19, wherein the request sent to the remote server contains information for the identification of the appliance.

23.   A method for printing in a user network a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 19, wherein the method comprises the further step of printing the label.

24.   A method for generating, in a server, a label to be used for returning a removable component of an appliance, the server connected to a network, being able to communicate through the network with at least one local server, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

receiving from at least one local server at least one request to send the local server data representing a label to be used for the return of a removable component, the request comprising information for the identification of the component,

retrieving from the request the information for the identification of the component,

authenticating the information for the identification of the component, and

generating data representing a label to be used for the return of the component, which includes data representing the information for the identification of the component, the data representing the label being generated only if the

identification information has been correctly authenticated sending the local server data representing the label.

25.   A method for generating, in a server, a label to be used for returning a removable component according to claim 24, wherein the step of authenticating the information for the identification of the component comprises the step of accessing authentication data contained in a memory means accessible by the server.

26.   A method for generating, in a server, a label to be used for returning a removable component according to claim 25, wherein the information for the identification of the component is authenticated, if the memory means contains a set of authentication data associated to the identification information.

27.   A method for generating, in a server, a label to be used for returning a removable component according to claim 24, wherein the request sent by the local server contains the information for the identification of the appliance, the information being used by the authentication means to authenticate the request sent by the local server.

28.   A method for generating, in a server, a label to be used for returning a removable component according to claim 24, wherein the information for the identification of the component included in the label is represented as a barcode embedded in the label.

29.   A component adapted to be incorporated in and removed from an appliance that can be connected to a user network, the component comprising a memory means containing information for the identification the component.

30. A component according to claim 29, wherein the information for the identification of the component is unique to every component.

31. A component according to claim 29, wherein the component comprises a means to allow information stored in the memory means to be accessible to the appliance in which the component is located.

32. A local server programmed to become operable to perform a method as set out in any one of claims 19 to 23.

33. A storage medium storing instructions for programming a processing apparatus to become operable to perform a method as set out in any one of claims 19 to 28.

34. A computer program for programming a processing apparatus to become operable to perform a method as set out in any one of claims 19 to 28.

35. A signal carrying instructions for programming a processing apparatus to become operable to perform a method as set out in any one of claims 19 to 28.

36. A system for printing, within a user network, a label to be used for the rerun of a component, comprising.

an appliance connected to the user network, the appliance comprising:

at least one removable component, said component being provided with a first memory means containing information for the identification of the removable component, and

a detector to detect a condition regarding the end of lifetime of at least one of the removable components located the appliance,

a local server, connected to the user network, and adapted to communicate, through a second network, with at least one remote server and through the user network with the appliance, said local server being adapted:

to send the remote server a request to receive data representing a label to be used for the return of a component, when the condition regarding the end of lifetime of a component located within the appliance has being detected by the detector, said request comprising the information for the identification of the component, and

to receive data from the remote server, said data representing the label to be used for the return of the component, and said label including the information for the identification of the component.

37. A system for printing a label to be used. for the return of a removable component according to claim 36, wherein the local server is located within the appliance.

38. A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 37, wherein said system comprises a printer connected to the user network, the local server sending date representing the label to the printer.

39. A system for printing a label to be used for the return of a removable component according to claim 36, wherein the appliance comprises a printer.